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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/775,281

Applicant(s)

MCMENIMEN ET AL.

Examiner

Lynda Jasmin

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are Z.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 May 2001 and 21 January 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art, Linberg (6,385,593 B2) discloses an implantable medical device that communicates information about itself to an invoicing computer. The invoicing computer determines where the IMD was implanted and then proceeds to generate an invoice to collect funds. Linberg further discloses an inventory control module of medical components of an implantable medical device (IMD) system. The inventory control module identifies a deficiency in an inventory and initiate a request to forward already manufactured products to a given user. It is clear from the description of Linberg's invention that the prior art does not considered the possibility of "initiating a build to order process based upon data communicated from a medical programmer to a medical device manufacturing control system to replace an inventory of a consumption hub depleted by at least one implantable medical device taken out of the inventory of the consumption hub." This distinct feature has been added to the sole independent claim 7 and renders it allowable.

The next prior art, Clynch (6,463,351 B1), discloses a method for producing customized medical device. A physician's computer system is equipped with custom computer software application, which permits images to be manipulated and modified with the assistance of a database of default manipulation. Clynch further discloses a device manufacturing facility that serves a plurality of scan facilities. It is clear from the description of Clynch's invention that the prior art does not considered the possibility of "initiating a build to order process based upon data communicated from a medical

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programmer to a medical device manufacturing control system to replace an inventory of a consumption hub depleted by at least one implantable medical device taken out of the inventory of the consumption hub." This distinct feature has been added to the sole independent claim 7 and renders it allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. The other prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

WO (01/56654 A1) discloses a medical device production where a programmer provides access to product information, specification to a manufacturing center.

Majlesein et al. discloses the need for sensor monitoring performance in quality products where just in time customized manufacturing needs dramatic adjustment in productivity.

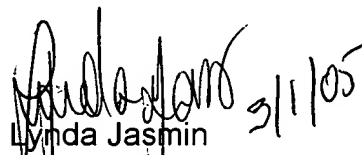
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lynda Jasmin whose telephone number is (703) 305-0465. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday (8:00-5:30) alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert P Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Lynda Jasmin  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3627

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